

Shanghai American School – Pudong Campus
International Baccalaureate Economics 2
SL & HL: 2011-2012

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Course Description

Welcome back to IB Economics. You are half way through your two-year journey. Before you know it, you will be completing your IA portfolio, finalizing your extended essay, reviewing, and taking your external exams in May.

As you are well aware, the course follows the International Baccalaureate syllabus. For details highlighting the areas of study for Year 2, please download yourself a copy of the syllabus from my webpage (www.mistercheung.com). Place the syllabus in your binder so you can pre-plan what will be covered and refer back to the topics studied during the year.

Goals

According to the IBO, the objectives of the economics course at higher level and standard level are to:

1. have an understanding and knowledge of economic concepts and theories
2. apply economic theory to a range of circumstances and a variety of situations
3. analyse information through the use of economic concepts and theories
4. evaluate concepts and theories from different economic perspectives.

Scope and Sequence

Section 4: International Economics

- Reasons for Trade
- Free Trade and Protectionism
- Economic Integration
- World Trade Organization
- Balance of Payments
- Exchange Rates
- Balance of Payment Problems
- Terms of Trade

Section 5: Development Economics

- Sources of Economic Growth and/or Development
- Consequences of Growth
- Barriers to Economic Growth and/or Development
- Growth and Development Strategies
- Evaluation of Growth and Development Strategies

Textbook

Blink, Jocelyn and Ian Dorton. Economics: Course Companion. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2007.
Glanville, Alan. Economics From A Global Perspective. Second Ed. Oxford: Glanville Books, 2003.

Workbooks

Morton, John S. and Rae Jean B. Goodman. Advanced Placement Economics Microeconomics: Student Activities. Third Ed. New York: NCEE, 2005.
Morton, John S. and Rae Jean B. Goodman. Advanced Placement Economics Macroeconomics: Student Activities. Third Ed. New York: NCEE, 2005.

Supplementary Materials

Other texts or readings from Mr. Cheung's collection
Selected articles from periodicals and newspapers
DVD and video clips

Grading

Students will be assessed in a variety of ways, which include, but not limited to, quizzes, tests, IAs, and homework. All formal summative evaluations will be marked according to IB criteria for economics, and carried over into a percentage for SAS grading purposes. Please see Group 3 Grade Descriptors (separate sheet).

Students' grades will be calculated according to the following breakdown:

- Tests (50%)
Tests are given after each chapter, couple of chapters, or unit. Test dates will be announced in class usually one week prior to the test.
- Quizzes and Projects (40%)
Quizzes will be given to reinforce certain concepts. Students will be notified two days prior to the quiz, for example if today is Monday, the quiz will be Wednesday. The teacher reserves the right to give pop-quizzes. Projects include, but not limited to, oral presentations, podcasts, and blog entries.
- Homework (10%)
Though most of the "action" occurs in class, homework is assigned as a vital extension of the classroom. Students can expect to regularly receive homework designed to reinforce concepts and skills covered in class. Homework includes, but not limited to, readings, worksheets, writing assignments, research, and test preparation.
- NB: School policy establishes that a written exam be given at the end of the first semester. This exam will cover material from the entire semester and count as 20% of your overall semester grade. Thus, the above coursework will be weighted at 80% and the semester exam at 20%. There will be no semester two exam as you will be taking your IB exams in May. However, you will be taking mocks, which usually occur before or after Spring break. Mocks will be included as a test grade.

Late Work and Make-Ups

Late work will be penalized at 10% per day to a maximum of three days (30%). After that, a grade of zero will be earned for that particular assignment/project and will become part of the student's evaluation for that quarter/semester. Parents will be informed of this situation.

If the due date is a Friday and the work is turned-in on a Monday, the penalty will be 20%. Any exception to this policy is at the discretion of the teacher (e.g. medical reasons).

Unexcused absences warrant a zero for missed quizzes and tests. Otherwise, all quizzes and tests will be taken prior to the excused absence, or immediately following the absence. Students are instructed not to wait for the next scheduled class to see their teacher.

Attendance, Participation and Attitude

Avoid missing class, for any reason, as each student is responsible for all material presented in class, including announcements on course procedures, examinations, etc. Unexcused absences can and will affect your grade. In the case of excused absences, they should be kept to a minimum. It is the student's responsibility to make up for classes missed, not the teacher's.

Prompt arrival to class is also expected. You are asked to be prepared (physically and mentally) for class discussions, possess a positive attitude, and be ready for individual and collaborative work.

Extra Credit

None. Please do not ask.